

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

12. (Original) A voice coding device comprising:

an LSP quantizer that quantizes LSP parameters;

an LSP multi-stage quantizer that quantizes quantization error components that the LSP quantizer is impossible to express;

a pitch component coder that attains pitch components from linear predictive errors;

an excitation source coder in which an excitation source is configured with a multi-stage code book;

an essential code output unit that outputs a code essential to decoding from the output of the LSP quantizer, the pitch component coder, and the excitation source coder; and

a sound quality improving code output unit that outputs a code to improve a decoded sound quality from the output of the LSP multi-stage quantizer and the excitation source coder.